

folded wing 2 in. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin., of tail 1 in. 8 lin., of tarsus 7 lin. (One example.)

This Sun-bird belongs to Shelley's "pale metallic group" of the genus *Cinnyris*, and is in colouring almost identical with *C. afer* (L.), but differs strikingly in size, being not larger than *C. chalybeus* (L.), and in the shortness of its beak. In the male the metallic green is perhaps rather more smooth and brilliant than in *C. afer*, and the scarlet of the breast somewhat lighter; but it is in the *width* of the latter that the bird differs most, the specimen in finest plumage having the belt an inch broad, which is actually wider than the same marking in the much larger *C. afer*. It is further remarkable that the wings are as long as in *C. afer*, viz. 2 in. 6 lin., while in *C. chalybeus* they measure only 2 in. 3 lin. The bill, however, is 1 line shorter than in *C. chalybeus* (culmen 9 lin.), and 5 lines shorter than in *C. afer* ($12\frac{1}{2}$ to 13 lin.).

C. erikssoni cannot be confounded with *C. chalybeus*, the latter having such a very narrow scarlet breast-belt; but it is more like *C. chloropygius*, Jard., a native of all the tropical West-African coast from Senegal to Angola. This last-named bird, however, is much smaller (total length 3 in. 7 lin.), and wants both the blue upper tail-coverts and blue pectoral collar presented by *C. erikssoni*.

Hab. Shella, Province of Mossamedes (*A. W. Eriksson*, 1882).

This handsome species was found by Mr. Eriksson to be not uncommon in the wooded ravines of the mountain-range called Shella ("Serra de Chella" of Keith Johnston's Library Map of Africa), rather over a hundred miles inland from the port of Mossamedes at Little Fish Bay. He describes its habits to be precisely those of *C. chalybeus* and *C. afer*, both of which he had observed some years ago at Knysna in the Cape colony, but which neither he nor the late Mr. Andersson ever met with to the north of the Orange River. Since seeing Mr. Eriksson's bird here described, it has occurred to me that the specimen of *C. afer* stated by Capt. Shelley and Mr. Sharpe to be recorded by Prof. Barboza du Bocage from Biballa may possibly prove to be *C. erikssoni*, as the latter locality is only a few miles distant from the Shella range.

5. Note on an Australian Duck living in the Society's Gardens. By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Society.

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(Plate XXXIII.)

In a paper on the Ducks living in the Society's Gardens, which I had the honour of reading before this Society in June 1880, I mentioned that we had purchased of a dealer in the August of the preceding year a lot of 18 Australian Ducks, which, at the time of their purchase, I had believed to be Chestnut-breasted Ducks (*Anas cas-*



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ANAS GIBBERIFRONS

